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Docket No. 57005-B/JPW/AJM/NFM



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Robert J. Winchester, et al.

Serial No.: 09/500,746

Examiner: R. Schwadron

Filed : February 9, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1644

For : USES OF INHIBITORS FOR THE ACTIVATION OF CXCR4
RECEPTOR BY SDF-1 IN TREATING RHEUMATOID
ARTHRITIS

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
June 18, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO DECEMBER 18, 2001 RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT AND PETITION FOR FIVE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

This Communication is submitted in response to the Restriction Requirement issued December 18, 2001 in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the December 18, 2001 Office Action was originally due January 18, 2002. Applicants hereby petition for a five-month extension of time for responding. The fee for a five-month extension is NINE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$980.00) for a small entity, and a check for this amount is enclosed herewith. A response is now due June 18, 2002. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed.

In the Office Action, the Examiner restricted pending claims 1-17, under 35 U.S.C. §121, to one of the following three allegedly distinct inventions:

- I. Claims 1-6, drawn to a method of treatment;
- II. Claims 7-12, 16 and 17 drawn to a composition; and
- III. Claims 13-15 drawn to an assay method.

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